

**AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION**

Please amend the specification as follows:

**Please amend paragraph [0015] which begins on page 5, line 18 as follows:**

The ball-point pen in accordance with the present invention made in order to solve the above-mentioned problems is a ball-point pen having a writing tip at a top end of which a writing ball is rotatably supported, an ink storage tube inside of which ink is stored, and a joint member for connecting the above-mentioned writing tip and the above-mentioned ink storage tube and supplying the ink in the ink storage tube to the above-mentioned writing tip side, characterized in that a cover member is further provided which can be fitted and mounted along a perimeter surface of the above-mentioned joint member or along the inside of a mounting hole formed in the above-mentioned joint member, and the above-mentioned cover member is arranged in dimensions so as not to approach within 0.2 mm of the above-mentioned writing tip when an end of the cover member is positioned so as to be in contact with the perimeter surface of the joint member and an axis of the cover member and an axis of the joint member are aligned, or when an end of said cover member is positioned so as to be in contact with an inner periphery of the mounting hole and an axis of the cover member and an axis of the joint member are aligned ~~the above mentioned cover member is fitted along the perimeter surface of the above-mentioned joint member or along the inside of the mounting hole.~~